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08.18.09*

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**PATENT**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:  
Robert Allen Smith et al.

Serial No.: 10/715,337

Filed: November 17, 2003

For: HYDRATABLE FORM OF KERATIN  
FOR USE AS A SOIL AMENDMENT

Group Art Unit: 1651

Examiner: Deborah K. Ware

Atty. Dkt. No.: KER020/4-1DIVUS

Confirmation No. 2390

*OK  
10/14/09*

**RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION OF DECEMBER 15, 2008**

**VIA EFS-WEB**

**MAIL STOP NON-FEE AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The present paper is filed in response to a Final Office Action of December 15, 2008, the due date for response for which was March 15, 2009. The commissioner is requested to consider this a petition for an extension of time of three months. Authorization to file the requisite fee of \$555.00 to a credit card is being filed electronically. No further fees are believed to be due with the filing of this paper, however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason relating to the enclosed materials, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct said fees from Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. Deposit Account No. 22-0365/KER020/4-1DIVUS/58000.

Entry of the following amendments and reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.